

Eastern Illinois University

The Keep

Minutes

Faculty Senate

12-3-2019

December 3, 2019

Faculty Senate

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Minutes from the Faculty Senate meeting held on 12/03/2019 Room 4440, Booth Library

the minutes summarize the proceeding, and do not constitute a verbatim transcript

I. Call to Order

- Chair of Faculty Senate, C.C. Wharram, called the meeting to order at 2:02 pm
- Senators in attendance: Abebe, VanGunten, Barnard, Chahyadi, Holly, Hugo, Stowell, Wharram, Brantley, Gosse, White, Eckert, Scher, Khamisani, N. Shaw, K. Shaw
- Guests: JJ Bullock (DEN reporter); Provost J. Gatrell; Dean Özlem Ersin

II. Approval of Minutes.

Motion (Stowell/Brantley), carried unanimously. N. Shaw and K. Shaw abstain

- Visiting Speaker: Dean Özlem Ersin (College of Health and Human Services)
 - Dean Ersin: excited for School of Nursing. Emerging priorities: developing strategic plan; work on operational excellence (building culture and diversifying faculty/student body); inter-professional education.

Discussion

- Abebe: thank you for coming to Master's student's defense
- Barnard: share your vision of partnering with community providers
- Ersin: we need to build those (partnerships) and also be better organized with what we're already doing
- Wharram: thoughts on Gen Ed.?
- Ersin: I joined Gen Ed. reading group because of interest in Liberal arts ed. Think EIU Gen Ed. could benefit from (instruction in) informational, health, and digital literacy
- Abebe: (thoughts on) common competency and learning goals?
- Ersin: learning goals (now) are more for guidance than mandate
- Gatrell: learning goals (now) too macro, generic
- Scher: real need for pre and post testing, at least for representative sample of students—for learning, retention, other outcomes (e.g. alumni giving)
- Gatrell: in favor of university wide assessment, integrated into courses
- Scher: maybe financial incentives for (participating) students?
- Gatrell: that's difficult (financial aid implications). Problem with learning goals is that they are not measureable—too macro/broad. We need an administrative fellow to champion this cause
- Scher: let's talk [implying his interest] (about moving this forward)
- Ersin: previous institution had two assessment days. At EIU depts. seem to have ownership (territory) of learning goals/gen eds., at previous institution organized by learning clusters
- Wharram: my sense is that students want literacy in skills you mentioned
- Scher: (but) need to focus on broader critical thinking skills
- Ersin: one broader goal is an educated citizen. Also, I adore accreditation because it is exacting, precise, deliberate (in its assessment)
- Scher: interest in social work program?
- Ersin: yes
- Abebe: reason diversity is always an (initiative) is because it's a problem (not achieved)

- Ersin: ideally, if we are successful it's not an initiative (any longer). (First) we all need to agree it's a problem
- Gatrell: like the term belonging: we want everyone on campus to feel that they belong—that they feel welcome
- Ersin: [final words]: shared governance important. I will continue to encourage colleagues to participate
Dean Ersin and Provost Gatrell depart (time not noted)

Further Discussion

- Wharram: met with Todd Bruns on how to update F. Senate webpage while he's on sabbatical; he offered to take over this again when he returns on 7/1. Motion for Todd to return as website czar on 7/1?
 - Motion (Barnard/Abebe), carried unanimously
- K. Shaw: has a senator always been a recorder? Necessary? Hard to participate
- Holly: [nodding] and recording is not part of our professional training
- Wharram: I've looked into this (discussed with Provost): recorder receives 3 CUs, and this is a faculty body—so not in institution's best interest to outsource
- Scher: maybe (audio) record meeting so senator can participate?
- Holly: [points to phone that is recording]; also, I've been trying to scale down minutes so not every utterance recorded

III. Committee Reports

- Executive
 - Holly: Think Tank underway; 400th events are winding down; working on finding a (presidential lecture) speaker on mental health with talk in February/March; Quality Initiative Project forum on 1/15; COS and COE Dean searches down to short lists; 40% of depts. revised DACs last year, expecting more this year; testing accommodation center will be up and running 1/1/2020
- Elections & Nominations
 - Stowell: as per previous discussion (college representation on committees in wake of University restructuring), the % of elected faculty representatives by total number of faculty per college is: [CLAS (6%), LCBT (15%), CHHS (17%), CoE (19-26%), LIB (25%)], so there is greater demand on the smaller colleges. Also, most committees filled by elections have updated their bylaws.
- Student Senate
 - Khamisani: last meeting was before Thanksgiving. De-stressor event planned for today (12/3). "Thank a Professor" campaign before Thanksgiving generated 120 cards
- Student and Staff Relations
 - Brantley: President Council will consider superior performance award for staff; 39 employees reclassified from Administrative and Professional positions to Civil Service; Sustainability resolution is being reviewed: want to be sure proposed initiatives can be accomplished; Beth Gillespie (Civic Engagement and Volunteerism) may represent staff senate; Staff Senate voted to buy gifts to award recipient and giver of "shout-outs" (recognition).
- Awards Committee
 - N. Hugo: nothing to report
- Faculty Forum
 - Abebe: let the record show that I missed only one Faculty Senate session, but will be on Sabbatical for the spring semester. Senators White and Eckert will be in charge.
 - Senators: (we will miss you)

- Budget Transparency
 - Barnard: nothing to report

IV. Business

- Provost's Report
 - No report: (Provost Gatrell not present; departed earlier in the meeting)
- VPSA Search Committee member confirmation

Discussion

 - Wharram: anyone?
 - Scher: willing to do it if nobody will
 - Holly: I'll do it
 - Motion to nominate Holly (Abebe/N.Shaw). Motion carried unanimously. Holly abstains.
- Other business?

Discussion

 - Wharram: next meeting 1/14
 - Stowell: received email from Steve Daniels with request to waive costs for faculty to use student rec. center and attend athletic events. There is a loophole whereby faculty who are taking classes (free) are waived student fees for access to rec center and sporting events. Propose faculty should have access to student rec center and athletic events without having to take classes.
 - Holly: faculty access to rec center makes sense for promoting health (insurance savings etc.) but maybe not free access to athletic events
 - N. Hugo: capacity at rec center?
 - Wharram: VPBA says faculty revenue generated for using rec center is minimal
 - Scher: is this loophole really being exploited?
 - Abebe: (agree with Holly) rec center for faculty makes sense
 - Barnard: wonder what athletics would say (possibility of increasing faculty attendance)
 - K. Shaw: note that retirees pay and use rec center
 - N. Shaw: (agree) rec center use for faculty makes sense
 - K. Shaw: implications if fine arts student fee added? Would faculty be able to go to fine arts events for free too?
 - Brantley: (also) interested in athletics opinion on this
 - Holly: making rec center free for faculty would also have benefit of keeping faculty close to/on campus (as per Provost's initiative)

V. Adjournment

- Wharram: good bye decade [senators discuss whether the decade is really ending]
- Motion (Abebe/K. Shaw) to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Adjourned at approximately 3:40 PM.

Submitted by Senate faculty recorder, D. Holly